

# Arizona News Release

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## **Press Release Announcement - March 24, 2006 - For Immediate Release**

### **Arizona Cattle on Feed Inventory Up 8 Percent From Last Year**

On March 1, 2006, Arizona had 351,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 8 percent from a year ago and up 5,000 head from last month. Placements totaled 31,000 head, 8,000 head more than a year ago. During February, 24,000 head were marketed, unchanged from last February.

On March 1, 2006, California had 550,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 7 percent from last year, but the same as last month. Placements totaled 63,000 head, up 14,000 head from last year. During February, 56,000 head were marketed, up 2,000 head from last February.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 12.0 million head on March 1, 2006. The inventory was 8 percent above March 1, 2005 and 9 percent above March 1, 2004. This is the highest March 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.60 million, 5 percent above 2005 but 1 percent below 2004. Net placements were 1.53 million. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 355,000, 600-699 pounds were 300,000, 700-799 pounds were 510,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 433,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.61 million, 1 percent below 2005 and 5 percent below 2004. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of February since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 73,000 during February, 5 percent below 2005 but 6 percent above 2004.

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